

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-17 under 35 USC §102. These objections and rejections are fully traversed below. In addition, Applicant has amended the claims to correct various typographical errors in response to the Examiner's claim objections. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to the claims be withdrawn.

Applicant acknowledges that 18-43 have been withdrawn from consideration due to the previous restriction requirement. Claims 1-17 remain pending.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC §102

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Inoue et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,515,974, ('Inoue' hereinafter).

The present invention provides proxy mobile IP support for a node that changes its location within a network. This is accomplished, in part, through the communication between access points within the network. As set forth in the Summary of Applicant's specification, "[a]n Access Point (AP) is the center point in an all-wireless network or serves as a connection point between a wired and a wireless network. Multiple APs can be placed throughout a facility to give users with WLAN adapters the ability to roam freely throughout an extended area while maintaining uninterrupted access to all network resources." The term "access point" is well-known in the art of networking.

Inoue discloses communication between home agents, rather than access points. Moreover, the processing disclosed in Inoue cited by the Examiner is performed by a home agent, not an access point. More particularly, Inoue discloses a home agent receiving a registration message from a mobile terminal. See col. 13, lines 49-51. Thus, the mobile terminal must support Mobile IP in order to compose and transmit the registration message.

The home agent forwards the registration message to another home agent. See col. 13, lines 49-59. Accordingly, the communication between home agents consists of a registration message transmitted by a mobile node.

With respect to claim 1, Inoue neither discloses nor suggests supporting mobility for a node that does not support Mobile IP. In other words, Inoue fails to disclose supporting proxy Mobile IP registration. Rather, Inoue requires that the mobile terminal compose and transmit a registration message.

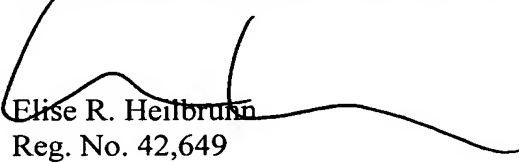
Inoue neither discloses nor suggests a first access point receiving access point information from a second access point. Similarly, Inoue fails to disclose or suggest storing access point information by the first access point, the access point information including information identifying an access point subnet and a gateway. Moreover, Inoue fails to disclose or suggest a first access point sending the access point information to a third access point that supports Mobile IP, thereby enabling the third access point to compare a received data packet with the access point subnet to determine whether to send a registration request on behalf of the node using the gateway as the node's Home Agent. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-17.

SUMMARY

An early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. If there are any issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee for such extension or any further fee required in connection with the filing of this Amendment is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0388 (Order No. CISC263).

Respectfully submitted,
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